NEWS

Rep. Christine Barber announces candidacy for Senate race in 2nd Middlesex District

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State Rep. Christine Barber, who currently represents Medford and Somerville in the Legislature, recently announced her candidacy for state Senate in the Second Middlesex District. COURTESY PHOTO/WWW.CHRISTINEBARBER.ORG

The following was submitted by state Rep. Christine Barber:

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State Rep. Christine Barber, who currently represents Medford and Somerville in the Legislature, announced her candidacy for state Senate in the Second Middlesex District, pledging to build on the historic legacy of Sen. Pat Jehlen by
delivering progressive results for working families across Somerville, Medford, Cambridge, and Winchester.

Barber, a progressive leader and longtime advocate for housing affordability, health care access, and women's rights, enters the race with a proven record of passing major legislation and securing millions of dollars in local investments.

"Pat Jehlen is the model of effective principled leadership. I'm lucky to have worked closely with her," said Barber. "I am running for state Senate to build on that legacy. I'm proud of the accomplishments I've achieved in the Legislature, because progressive leadership must be about delivering progressive results. Families are struggling with the cost of living, housing, and health care. We need leaders that know how to win tough fights and turn values into action."

During her time in the House, Barber has authored and passed laws eliminating copays for insulin and inhalers, allowing driver's licenses regardless of immigration status, and advancing pay equity and reproductive rights.

She has secured millions of dollars in funding for critical local projects, including the Green Line Extension, Alewife Brook Parkway safety improvements in
Somerville, and the Main and South Street revitalization in Medford.

She has also led efforts to increase pay for home-care workers, electrify public transit, and expand housing options by enabling Accessor
Dwelling Units.

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"Our communities deserve a Senator who is ready on day one and laser focused on delivering for Somerville, Medford, Cambridge, and Winchester," Barber said. "I will bring collaborative leadership and community voices to Beacon Hill."

Barber currently represents Somerville and Medford in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

For more information, visit www.ChristineBarber.org or follow on Facebook at facebook.com/christinebarberstaterep or Instagram at instagram.com/rep.christine.barber

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Sen. Jason Lewis, Mass. Senate strengthen fair housing protections for renters, buyers

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

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Winchester Select Board approves overnight parking pilot, permit fees increased

The Winchester Select Board on Feb. 23 approved an overnight parking pilot, raised building permit fees for the first time since 2021, adopted the 2026 outdoor dining policy and directed the town manager to examine reinvesting downtown-generated revenue into town center improvements. The board voted unanimously to implement the overnight

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‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

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Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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